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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/599,368	09/27/2006	Kazuhide Kudo	36856.1464	7685
54066 7590 06/10/2009 MURATA MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LTD. C/O KEATING & BENNETT, LLP 1800 Alexander Bell Drive SUITE 200 Reston, VA 20191				
EXAMINER WILCZEWSKI, MARY A				
ART UNIT 2822		PAPER NUMBER		
NOTIFICATION DATE 06/10/2009		DELIVERY MODE ELECTRONIC		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Notice of the Office communication was sent electronically on above-indicated "Notification Date" to the following e-mail address(es):

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Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/599,368

Applicant(s)

KUDO ET AL.

Examiner

M. Wilczewski

Art Unit

2822

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2009.
2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 18-34 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
5) ☒ Claim(s) 18-31 is/are allowed.
6) ☒ Claim(s) 32-34 is/are rejected.
7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 27 September 2006 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/S508)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

This Office action is in response to the Amendment filed on 12 March 2009.

Claims 1-17 have been cancelled. Claims 18-34 are pending in the application.

Specification

The objection to the abstract has been withdrawn.

Drawings

The drawings were received on 27 September 2006. These drawings are acceptable.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 32 and 33 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Okura et al. (JP Patent No. JP 2000012377 A, from hereinafter "Okura"), of record.

Regarding independent claim 32, Okura discloses a conventional laminated ceramic electronic component in drawing 7 comprising
conductive pattern layers (electrode layer A in drawing 7); and

insulating layers (ceramic layers 53) which are alternately arranged with the conductive pattern layers (electrode pattern A) to form a laminate in which the conductive pattern layers are integrally laminated to each other, as shown in drawing 7,

in at least one of the conductive pattern layers, at least one floating dummy pattern (electrode 52c) which is not electrically connected to a corresponding conductive pattern is disposed in a region between an end surface of said at least one of the conductive pattern layers and the conductive pattern at an interval therefrom so as not to be exposed at the end surface of said at least one of the conductive pattern layers (drawing 7); and

as shown in drawing 7, no conductive patterns are disposed between the end surface of said at least one of the conductive pattern layers and the at least one floating dummy pattern, that is, there is no conductive pattern located between the end surface of electrode A in the upper conductive pattern layer and adjacent floating dummy pattern 52c.

Regarding claim 33, Okura discloses the conductive pattern layers (electrode layer A) include extension conductors (52a) which extend from the conductive patterns to end surfaces of the conductive pattern layers, conductive pattern layers having extension conductors provided at positions different from each other are included in the conductive pattern layers, and of the conductive pattern layers having extension conductors provided at positions different from each other, in a region of one of the conductive pattern layers in which no floating dummy pattern (52c) is provided and which is overlapped with a region of another one of the conductive pattern layers in

which at least one extension conductor is provided (conductive pattern layer A), the at least one floating dummy pattern is provided (conductive pattern layer B), as shown in drawing 7.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claim 34 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Okura in view of Kitamura (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0093415 A1, from hereinafter "Kitamura"), both of record.

The teachings of Okura have been discussed above.

Okura fails to teach the electronic component-forming conductive patterns have a coil pattern shape, and the electronic component is a coil component.

Kitamura teaches the electronic component-forming conductive patterns have a coil pattern shape, and the electronic component is a coil component (Referring to Figs. 1 through 3 illustrating an embodiment of the present invention, a laminated common-mode choke coil generally indicated by 30 comprises a laminated structure formed of a pair of magnetic substrates 31 and 37, and a plurality of insulating layers 33A, 33 and 35 laminated between the substrates 31 and 37. An Ag film having a thickness of from 1 to 10 μm is deposited on a surface of an insulating layer 33A according to, e.g., a

sputtering process, and is patterned in a spiral shape according to photolithography techniques, thereby forming a primary coil electrode 32; See ¶ [0032] & [0033]).

In view of the teaching of Kitamura it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to employ the coil electrode as taught by Kitamura because coiled structures are commonly fabricated by the lamination method. This method can be used to produce a wide variety of structures and devices. It would have been obvious to combine the teachings of Okura and Kitamura because Kitamura discloses manufacturing a choke coil such that alternating conducting and insulating layers are laminated together to form a device structure in much the same way as Okura and the present application.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 18-31 are allowable over the prior art of record.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to M. Wilczewski whose telephone number is (571) 272-1849. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zandra Smith can be reached on 571-272-2429. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/M. Wilczewski/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2822